STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor

P.O. Box 5750 Ft. Richardson, AK 99505-5750 Phone: (907) 428-7000

Fax: (907) 428-7009 www.ak-prepared.com

For Immediate Release: November 30, 2004

Application Period Opens for State Individual Assistance Program

(Anchorage, AK) – The Governor's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) is opening tele-registration for the State Individual Assistance Program on Wednesday December 1st. The program is designed to provide assistance for those who suffered damages and/or losses to personal and real property during the Bering Strait Sea Storm Disaster that hit the west coast of Alaska October 18th through the 24th.

"Individuals and families who incurred damages or losses during the storm can call our toll-free hotline to file an application for assistance," said Jamie Littrell, DHS&EM spokesman. "If an individual or family does qualify for assistance, they could receive a maximum grant of \$5,000."

Those wanting to apply for State assistance should call DHS&EM at 1-800-921-3682, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. After completing the tele-registration, applicants may be asked to provide verification documentation for their claims and copies of any disaster-related repair receipts or damage estimates.

"This is the best way for individuals and families to receive assistance for what they have lost during the storm," said Gary Brown, the State Coordinating Officer for this disaster.

The deadline to apply for the State's assistance program is January 29th, 2005.

###